IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 1 on page 7 with the following paragraph:

In one aspect of the invention, the ACK message includes a service ID field with the service ID of the data flow on which the acknowledgement was generated, a format type field (e.g., complete bitmap, simplified bitmap, range format), a byte length field, a sequence number of the first expected frame and the starting sequence number of the Receive receiver window and an information map field that is a map of the receive window showing the frames that are lost and the frames that have been received properly. The information map field is empty if the packets are properly received in sequence. The sender window can be updated based on the information provided in the ACK message.

Please replace paragraph beginning at line 25 on page 8 with the following paragraph:

In FIG. 4, assume initially that the receiver window 420 is empty, as illustrated at 432. Assume also that the sender window 410 initially receives packets 1 through 5 to transmit to the receiver. Thus, at 430, the sender window 410 holds the packets one 1 through 5 and at 434 such packets are transmitted to the receiver. Assume that packets 1 through 4 are delivered correctly, but that packet 5 is lost during transmission. Thus, the receiver at 436 buffers the packets 1 through 4 and generates an acknowledgement (e.g., ACK 4) indicating that packets 1 through 4 have been received correctly and can be delivered in sequence to a higher protocol layer. The receiver can deliver the packets 1 through 4 in order to a higher protocol layer and therefore the receiver can move its receiver window 420 (e.g., sliding window) so that it is now expecting packets 5 through 9.